

B1

- In wiper blades of the type under consideration, the carrying element is intended to assure a predetermined distribution of the wiper arm-induced wiper blade pressing force - often also called pressure - against the window over the entire wiping field swept across by the wiper blade. Through a corresponding curvature of the unstressed carrying element - i.e. when the wiper blade is not resting against the window - the ends of the wiper strip, which is placed completely against the window during the operation of the wiper blade, are loaded toward the window by the carrying element which is then stressed, even when the curvature radii of spherically curved vehicle windows change with each wiper blade position. The curvature of the wiper blade must therefore be slightly sharper than the sharpest curvature measured in the wiping field on the window to be wiped. The carrying element consequently replaces the expensive support bracket construction with two spring rails disposed in the wiper strip, as is the practice in conventional wiper blades (published, non-examined German patent application 15 05 357). -

Please replace the second full paragraph beginning at page 1, line 23 with the following written paragraph:

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- In a known wiper blade of this type (German patent 12 47 161), in order to produce as uniform as possible a pressure loading of the wiper blade against a flat window over its entire length, a number of embodiments of the carrying element are provided. -

Please replace the subheading "Advantages of the Invention" at page 2 with the following subheading:

B3

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- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION -

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 21 and ending at page 3, line 8 with the following paragraph:

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BY - According to the present invention, a wiper blade which can be moved back and forth across the window comprises an elongated wiper strip, and a spring-elastic carrying element wherein a contact force of the wiper strip against the window is greater in its center section than in at least one of two end sections thereof. In the wiper blade according to the present invention, in the vicinity of the reduced contact force, a steeper drag position of the wiper lip is produced in comparison to the region with the greater contact force. This steeper position of the wiper lip encourages its tilting-over process in the wiping direction reversal positions of the wiper blade, which is initiated there and then continued in the region that has the greater contact force. This prevents the abrupt snapping over of the entire wiper lip and the unpleasant knocking noise connected with it. This also eliminates the problems in the design of the carrying element with regard to the contact pressure distribution in spherically curved windows. Namely, it has turned out that the reduction of the contact pressure at the end section of the wiper blade does not inevitably also attend a reduction in the wiping quality. -

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 to 4 without prejudice.